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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-04

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189507

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 17524 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN GENEVA LONDON PARIS USNATO USUN JULY 26.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 17524

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET VIEWS ON SELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD)

REF: (A) STATE 183175, (B) GENEVA 10990

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MET WITH HEAD OF MFA'S IO DEPARTMENT ISSRAELYAN ON JULY 26 TO DISCUSS TOPICS IN REF A. ISSRAELYAN HAD SPECIFIED THAT HE WISHED TO SPEAK WITH AMBASSADOR PERSONALLY ON CD MATTERS AND HAS EARLIER IN THE WEEK SPOKEN ON THE SAME SUBJECT WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH CHARGES. MAIN THEME OF ISSRAELYAN'S PRESENTATION WAS NEED FOR U.S.-SOVIET-FRENCH-BRITISH CONSULTATION ON MEMBERSHIP OF NEW CD FOLLOWED BY REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS, TAKING PLACE PREFERALY IN GENEVA. HE FELT THAT AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED FAIRLY EASILY CONFIDENTIAL

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ON NEW CD MEMBERS. END SUMMARY.

1. ISSRAELYAN OPENED MEETING BY ASKING THAT HIS PERSONAL REGARDS BE SENT TO GOVERNOR HARRIMAN, AND TO AMBASSADORS LEONARD, FISHER, AND WEILER. HE THEN HAD HIS NOTE-TAKER READ A DOCUMENT ON CD MEMBERSHIP. THE DOCUMENT ASSERTED THAT THE UN DOES NOT HAVE COM-

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PETENCE IN CD MEMBERSHIP MATTERS AND THAT USE OF UN PROCEDURES (INCLUDING THOSE CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF MEMBERSHIP) IS "NOT JUSTIFIED." THE FOUR NUCLEAR POWERS SHOULD MAKE PROPOSALS ON NEW MEMBERS OF THE CD AND SHOULD ALSO INITIATE "WIDER CONSULTATIONS" ON THIS MATTER. THIS, THE DOCUMENT STATED, IS CONSISTENT WITH THE WISHES EXPRESSED BY UNGA, PRESIDENT MOFSOM ON

JUNE 30.

2. THE DOCUMENT CONTINUED BY STATING THAT THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE CCD SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF "ALL POLITICAL ORIENTATIONS" WILL BE INCREASED IN A BALANCED MANNER. GENEVA WAS IDENTIFIED AS THE MOST APPROPRIATE SITE FOR CONSULTATIONS OF THE FOUR NUCLEAR POWERS WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CCD. THE DOCUMENT CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD NOT OBJECT, HOWEVER, TO BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN THE CAPITALS OF THE FOUR NUCLEAR STATES.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF THE SITE OF THE CONSULTATIONS, ISSRAELYAN ARGUED THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER AND MORE PRODUCTIVE TO CONSULT IN GENEVA WITH THOSE WHO UNDERSTAND
THE PROBLEMS THAN IN THE CAPITALS. (AT THIS POINT
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ISSRAELYAN COMPLAINED THAT WHILE HE COULD OF COURSE DISCUSS CD MATTERS SERIOUSLY WITH THE AMBASSADOR, IT WOULD NOT BE EASY TO CONSULT WITH HIS BRITISH AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES HERE IN MOSCOW.) ISSRAELYAN NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE "NONSENSE" TO DISCUSS CD MATTERS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRIES OF THE SMALLER COUNTRIES SINCE ALL OF THEIR DISARMAMENT EXPERTS ARE IN GENEVA. THUS, FOR THESE "PRACTICAL REASONS," THE USSR PREFERS TO CONSULT IN GENEVA, BUT "WE ARE NOT RIGID." FINALLY, AS AN ADDITIONAL POINT ISSRAELYAN STATED THAT MOJSOV WILL BE IN GENEVA ON AUGUST 14 FOR A CONFERENCE AND WILL CONDUCT CONSULTATIONS ON CD MATTERS AT THAT TIME. THE AMBASSADOR THEN MADE THE POINTS SET FORTH IN REFTELS, STRESSING OUR PREFERENCE FOR CONSULTATIONS IN CAPITALS AND NEED TO RESPOND TO PRESSURES FOR EXPANDING NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS BEYOND FIVE. AMBASSADOR ACKNOWLEDGED LOGIC OF SOVIET POSITION REGARDING DIFFICULTIES IN CONSULTATIONS IN THE VARIOUS CAPITALS, AND SAID THAT HE WOULD TRANSMIT ISSRAELYAN'S THOUGHTS ON THIS POINT TO WASHINGTON.

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4. ON THE PROCEDURES FOR SELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS, ISSRAELYAN PROPOSED THAT THE FOUR NUCLEAR POWERS FIRST MEET AND THEN CONSULT WITH THE OTHER CCD MEMBERS. HE OFFERED, AS AN EXAMPLE, THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FOUR COULD MEET, THEN CONSULT WITH THE OTHER CCD MEMBERS DURING A WEEK TO TEN DAY PERIOD, AND THEN MEET ONCE AGAIN. AT ANOTHER POINT HE PHRASED HIS IDEAS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY, STATING THAT FIRST THE FOUR NUCLEAR POWERS SHOULD AGREE AFTER WHICH THEY COULD CONSULT WITH THE OTHERS, BUT SAID THAT THIS PROCESS COULD GO ON CONCURRENTLY.

5. AT THIS POINT, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ON THE FRENCH POSITION, ISSRAELYAN STATED THAT FRENCH
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AMBASSADOR DE LEUSSE HAD PRESENTED A NONPAPER ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO ON CD MEMBERSHIP. IN THIS NONPAPER THE FRENCH OPPOSED CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE CCD COCHAIRMEN AND HAD STATED A PREFERENCE FOR CONSULTATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE UNGA PRESIDENT IN NEW YORK WITH REGIONAL GROUPINGS. SUCH CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE ON THE BASIS OF UNGA PROCEDURES AND WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CCD COCHAIRMEN. ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSALS ARE IN RESPONSE TO THE FRENCH POSITION, THAT MOJSOV WANTS NO PART OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS, AND THAT THE FRENCH PROPOSALS WOULD LEAD TO A "MESS."

6. ON THE QUESTION OF THE NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS, ISSRAELYAN STATED THAT MOSCOW PREFERS TO LIMIT THE NUMBER TO FIVE BUT RECOGNIZES THAT THERE WILL BE DIFFICULTIES ON THIS MATTER. ON THE CRITERIA FOR THE ALLOCATION OF NEW SEATS, ISSRAELYAN SAID THAT WHILE HE COULD NOT NAME POSSIBLE CANDIDATES, HE FELT THAT A "WESTERN" STATE AND A "SOCIALIST" STATE SHOULD BALANCE ONE ANOTHER AND SAID, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THAT MOSCOW WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH ANOTHER NATO MEMBER ON THE CD. HE SAID THAT IF FIVE NEW MEMBERS WERE ADDED, AUSTRALIA AND CUBA WOULD PROVIDE BALANCE BETWEEN "WESTERN" AND "SOCIALIST" (ALTHOUGH, HE ADDED, CUBA IS "NON-ALIGNED") AND THEN THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEUTRAL-NON-ALIGNED NATIONS WOULD COMPLETE THE PROCE . ISSRAELYAN CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT HE DID NOT SEE ANY GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN THE PROCESS OF SELECTING NEW CD MEMBERS BUT URGED THAT HASTE BE MADE IN GETTING CONSULTATIONS STARTED. TOON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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